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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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INTELLIGENCE TECHNIQUES COURSE NO. 37

Chief Instructor's Comments

1. Intelligence Techniques Course No. 37 ran from 10 April to 28 April, 1967. [] students were internals.

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2. The class average was again "P Plus; and, again, those in the lower half of the A & E pre-test rankings achieved the same average as did those in the upper half. Similarly, the internals and externals made the same overall course average, with the internals doing slightly better in writing than the externals, and slightly less well in briefing.

3. As always, our primary goal has been to familiarize the student with the techniques of analysis and communication used in the DDI, by making him solve a variety of actual intelligence problems, so that both he and the Agency can decide if this is the sort of work he is best suited to do. The post-course critiques again reflected 90% satisfaction with the way the course has met its goals. As one CT expressed it: "The course has introduced me to DDI report writing, given me an idea as to the requirements of Intelligence writing and reporting across-the-board, and has helped me to decide whether I want to work in DDI. Therefore, I think the goals have been satisfied." Another astutely observed: "The course provided excellent training and preparation for writing in any agency component--was most valuable to me in that regard. Also provided some speaking confidence." One said, bluntly: "It's a good course. I enjoy problem solving." Still more bluntly, another added: "Thank God It's over. This is like boot camp. It sure as hell isn't enjoyable--but you learn a lot and the course is useful." One CT voiced his appreciation of our effort to present the substance, rather than an "image," of the DDI: "The Staff should be commended for the frank approach toward the DDI and not yielding to the temptation of using the three weeks for propagandizing the DDI."

4. The critiques also contained a number of constructive suggestions. One said: "I think the course jumps off a little too fast." Several suggested that the instructors

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and DDI briefers should better exemplify the briefing precepts we espouse. Another common criticism of the course was that it was too short. Overbalancing the scattered complaints that the course should be shortened by eliminating whole chunks, the following suggestions were made: "I would like to spend more time on the type of assignment--i.e., do several NIE's rather than one and go on to a next assignment. Perhaps the course should be lengthened;" "practice and guidance in oral communication is good and should be increased by at least one briefing"; perhaps expand each part of the course in order to provide a more accurate appraisal of the content;" and "the Intelligence Techniques Course should be extended one week. More written exercises could be done, and one more briefing could be added. This is a valuable course."

5. At a May 5 faculty meeting we reviewed our progress in updating the exercises and adopted a policy of presenting, as far as possible, all assignments and critiques of exercises in the sections rather than in general assembly. This was also in response to the constructive suggestions contained in some of the student evaluations.

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